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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Junichi HANNA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1756

Serial No.: 09/679,538

Examiner: Shean Chiu Wu

Filed: October 6, 2000

For: LIQUID CRYSTALLINE COMPOUNDS AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE
SAME

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

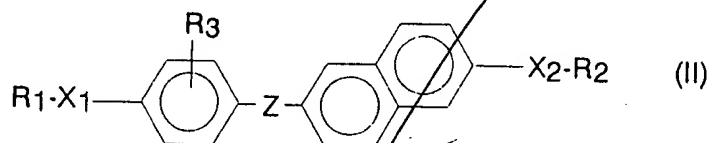
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In reply to the Office Action mailed November 23, 2001, please
undertake the following changes:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 2 and 8 as follows:

2. (Amended) A liquid crystalline compound represented by the
following general formula (II):



C₁
Cont.

wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a $-CO-$, $-OCO-$, $-COO-$, $-N=CH-$, $-CONH-$, $-NH-$, or $-CH_2-$ group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a $-CO-$, $-OCO-$, $-COO-$, $-N=CH-$, $-CONH-$, $-NH-$, $-NHCO-$, or $-CH_2-$ group; and Z represents a $-N=N-$, $-CH=N-$, $-CH_2S-$, $-CH=CH-$, or $-C\equiv C-$ group.

C₂

8. (Amended) The liquid crystalline compound according to claim 2, wherein R_3 represents a hydrogen atom and X_1 and X_2 each independently represent a $-CH_2-$, $-CO-$, $-OCO-$, $-COO-$, or $-N=CH-$ group wherein X_2 may also be an oxygen atom.